

# CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

<b>12-ORA-133</b>	<b>0.8-1.2</b>	<b>ON870</b>
Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency)	P.M./P.M.	E.A/Project No.
Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No.		

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** (Briefly describe project including need, purpose, location, limits, right-of-way requirements, and activities involved in this box. Use Continuation Sheet, if necessary.)

To address a high number of sideswipe and rear-end type of accidents due to hazardous weaving conditions at this location (intersection of Canyon Acres Drive, Laguna Beach), it is proposed to extend the existing second northbound through lane to relocate the beginning of the lane reduction transition farther north from the signalized intersection and provide a standard lane drop taper. Construction activities include applying RHMA, AC, and Class 2 Aggregate Base for the new lane and shoulder. Existing striping, pavement markers and signs will be removed and new striping, signs and safety merging lights installed. Three power poles will be relocated and two will be protected in place. All work will occur within the state right-of-way. The disturbed soil area (DSA) will be less than 1 acre. State and federal funding.

**CEQA COMPLIANCE** (for State Projects only)

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the following statements are true and exceptions do not apply (See 14 CCR 15300 et seq.):

- If this project falls within exempt class 3, 4, 5, 6 or 11, it does not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law.
- There will not be a significant cumulative effect by this project and successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time.
- There is not a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.
- This project does not damage a scenic resource within an officially designated state scenic highway.
- This project is not located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Govt. Code § 65962.5 ("Cortese List").
- This project does not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

**CALTRANS CEQA DETERMINATION** (Check one)



☐ Not Applicable – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency      ☐ Not Applicable – Caltrans has prepared an Initial Study or Environmental Impact Report under CEQA

☐ Exempt by Statute. (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)

Based on an examination of this proposal, supporting information, and the above statements, the project is:

☒ **Categorically Exempt. Class 1** ©. . (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

☐ **Categorically Exempt. General Rule exemption.** [This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (CCR 15061[b])[3].]

<b>Smita Deshpande</b>	<b>Pija Ansari</b>
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief	Print Name: Project Manager
 Signature	 Signature
Nov 9, 2016 Date	11/19/16 Date

**NEPA COMPLIANCE**

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117, and based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that this project:

- does not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the environment as defined by NEPA, and is excluded from the requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and
- has considered unusual circumstances pursuant to 23 CFR 771.117(b).

**CALTRANS NEPA DETERMINATION** (Check one)

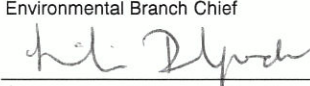

☒ **23 USC 326:** The State has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act. The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 31, 2016, executed between the FHWA and the State. The State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

☒ **23 CFR 771.117(c): activity © (26)**

☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d) ( )**

☐ **Activity \_\_\_\_\_ listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and the State**

☐ **23 USC 327:** Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327.

<b>Smita Deshpande</b>	<b>Pija Ansari</b>
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief	Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer
 Signature	 Signature
Nov 9, 2016 Date	11/10/16 Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 11/3/16      Date of ECR or equivalent : 11/3/16

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet. Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., CE checklist, additional studies and design conditions).

**CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM**  
**Continuation Sheet**

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No significant environmental consequences are anticipated with the proposed project. In addition to the measures relating to construction noise, air pollution control, water pollution control, and erosion, as given in the Caltrans Standard Specifications, the following measures are required:

This project lies within the coastal zone. Construction or maintenance activities shall not commence until a coastal permit exemption determination or coastal development permit has been obtained from the California Coastal Commission, and/or the Certified Local Coastal Program agency(s) that hold jurisdiction. This should be completed during the PS&E phase for delivery projects.

Equipment/materials shall not be stored outside of paved areas.

Construction must be completed between Labor Day weekend and Memorial Day weekend to avoid impacts to coastal access during the high season.